

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of estimating a cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system, the method comprising the following steps implemented in a data processing system:

obtaining historical power status information relating to operation of the backup power system; and

computing an estimate of cost savings from the obtained historical power status information.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the obtained historical power status information comprises at least one of a number of power failures and a duration of the power failures.

3. The method of Claim 2 further comprising:

obtaining a one-time cost factor for a single power failure; and

obtaining a cost per hour without power factor.

4. The method of Claim 3 wherein computing an estimate of cost savings comprises:

calculating a per incident savings estimate based on the number of power failures and the one-time cost factor;

calculating an hourly savings estimate based on the duration of the power failures and the cost per hour without power factor; and

calculating the estimate of cost savings associated with the backup power system based on the calculated per incident savings estimate and the calculated hourly savings estimate.

5. The method of Claim 4 further comprising exporting the per incident savings estimate, the hourly savings estimate and/or the estimate of cost savings to a computer application.

6. The method of Claim 4 further comprising displaying the one-time cost factor, the cost per hour factor, the number of power failures, the duration of the power failures, the per incident savings estimate, the hourly savings estimate and the estimate of cost savings on a graphical user interface (GUI).

7. A method of estimating cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system, the method comprising the following steps implemented on a data processing system:

- receiving historical power status information from a UPS over a communications link;
- accepting a power outage cost factor from a user interface;
- computing an estimate of cost savings based on the historical power status information and the power outage cost factor; and
- displaying the estimate of cost savings on the user interface.

8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the received historical power status information comprises at least one of a number of power failures and a duration of the power failures, wherein the power outage cost factor comprises a one-time cost factor for a single power failure and/or a cost per hour without power factor and wherein the user interface comprises a graphical user interface (GUI).

9. The method of Claim 8 wherein computing an estimate of cost savings comprises:

- calculating a per incident savings estimate based on the number of power failures and the one-time cost factor;
- calculating an hourly savings estimate based on the duration of the power failures and the cost per hour without power factor; and
- calculating an estimate of cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system based on the calculated per incident savings estimate and the calculated hourly savings estimate.

10. A calculator for estimating a cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system, comprising a data processor configured obtain historical power status information relating to operation of the backup power system and compute an estimate of cost savings from the obtained historical power status information.

11. The calculator of Claim 10 wherein the data processor is operatively associated with a graphical user interface (GUI) and wherein the GUI is configured to receive the historical power status information and transmit the historical power status information to the data processor.

12. The calculator of Claim 10 wherein the historical power status information comprises at least one of a number of power failures and a duration of the power failures.

13. The calculator of Claim 12 wherein the data processor is further configured to:

receive a one-time cost factor for a single power failure and a cost per hour without power factor;

calculate a per incident savings estimate based on the number of power failures and the one-time cost factor;

calculate an hourly savings estimate based on the duration of the power failures and the cost per hour without power factor; and

calculate the estimate of cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system based on the calculated per incident savings estimate and calculated hourly savings estimate.

14. A computer program product for estimating a cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

computer readable program code configured to obtain historical power status information relating to operation of the backup power system; and

computer readable program code configured to compute an estimate of cost savings from the obtained historical power status information.

15. The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein the obtained historical power status information comprises at least one of a number of power failures and a duration of the power failures.

16. The computer program product of Claim 14 further comprising:  
computer readable program code configured to obtain a one-time cost factor for a single power failure; and  
computer readable program code configured to obtain a cost per hour without power factor.

17. The computer program product of Claim 16 wherein the computer readable program code configured to compute an estimate of cost savings comprises:  
computer readable program code configured to calculate a per incident savings estimate based on the number of power failures and the one-time cost factor;  
computer readable program code configured to calculate an hourly savings estimate based on the duration of the power failures and the cost per hour without power factor; and  
computer readable program code configured to calculate the estimate of cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system based on the calculated per incident savings estimate and the calculated hourly savings estimate.

18. The computer program product of Claim 17 further comprising computer readable program code configured to export the per incident savings estimate, the hourly savings estimate and/or the estimate of cost savings to a computer application.

19. The computer program product of Claim 17 further comprising computer readable program code configured to display the one-time cost factor, the cost per hour factor, the number of power failures, the duration of the power failures, the per incident savings estimate, the hourly savings estimate and the estimate of cost savings on a graphical user interface (GUI).

20. A computer program product for estimating a cost savings attributable to use of a backup power system, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

computer readable program code configured to receive historical power status information from a uninterruptible power supply (UPS) over a communications link;

computer readable program code configured to accept a power outage cost factor from a user interface;

computer readable program code configured to compute an estimate of cost savings based on the historical power status information and the power outage cost factor; and

computer readable program code configured to display the estimate of cost savings on the user interface.

21. The computer program product of Claim 20 wherein the received historical power status information comprises at least one of a number of power failures and a duration of the power failures, wherein the power outage cost factor comprises a one-time cost factor for a single power failure and/or a cost per hour without power factor and wherein the user interface comprises a graphical user interface (GUI)

22. The computer program product of Claim 21 wherein the computer readable program code configured to compute an estimate of cost savings comprises:

computer readable program code configured to calculate a per incident savings estimate based on the number of power failures and the one-time cost factor;

computer readable program code configured to calculate an hourly savings estimate based on the duration of the power failures and the cost per hour without power factor; and

computer readable program code configured to calculate the estimate cost savings estimate attributable to use of a backup power system based on the calculated per incident savings and the calculated hourly savings.